



THE REGISTER.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1843.

The nominations by the President of Henry A. Wise for minister to France, and Caleb Cushing for Secretary of the Treasury, were rejected by the Senate towards the close of the session. They were each nominated and re-nominated three successive times the same day, the vote falling off each time, 'till on both nominations, the last vote stood, but two yeas—Messrs Cuthbert and Walker! The Senate justly regarded these pertinacious re-nominations as a trespass on the dignity and rights of their body, and hence the gradual falling off of votes. John Tyler does a slim business aping the "Old Roman."

We have been otherwise so much engaged thus far that we have found but little time to use the quill editorial.—The substitution of better matter will doubtless furnish an ample apology.

The "Wharfage Tax" law has been undergoing discussion for some weeks in the Louisiana Legislature, and a bill for its repeal has now passed.

The New Orleans Tropic states that the Small Pox, which has had a foothold in that city for more than a year, is now "raging with more than ordinary virulence."

The treaty between this country and Mexico was ratified by the U. S. Senate on the eve of adjournment.

Mr. Tyler, who signed the Bill to establish, has now approved the Bill to repeal the Bankrupt Law. It is therefore no longer a law.

The Dollar Democrat, Hernando Phoenix, Natchez Courier, Vicksburg Whig and Jackson Southron have severally spoken in favor of holding a Printer's Convention at Vicksburg on the first Wednesday in May next. We go in for it.

The auction store of Wm. Hay & Co., at Vicksburg, was broken into on the night of the 10th inst., and robbed of goods to the amount of \$300.

The New Orleans Tropic states that a duel was fought on the 10th between the Hon. G. A. Waggaman, formerly a Senator in Congress from Louisiana, and Hon. Dennis Prieur. On the second fire with pistols Mr. W. was shot through both thighs—the wound not considered dangerous.

Several persons have lately been bitten in Memphis by mad dogs. The city authorities have authorised a war of extermination.

The weather is convalescent. The Comet is making himself scarce.

The Legislature of Illinois has passed a law making it a Penitentiary offence to entice, run off or secrete negroes from their masters.

The New Orleans Tropic is now publishing a series of excellent articles on the subject of the culture of cotton in India.

Hon. John Fairfield, Governor of Maine, has been elected U. S. Senator from that State, to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Ruell Williams, deceased.

The "Southern Sportsman" is the title of a new weekly devoted to the sports of the turf, published at N. Orleans by the proprietors of the Tropic, and edited by Messrs T. B. Thorpe and R. L. Brenham. Its mechanical execution is inferior to no newspaper, and if sustained it will vie in other respects with the Spirit of the Times.

Fatal Affray.

The following is from the N. Orleans Herald, of the 10th inst:

An affray of the most dark and fearful description which has already proved fatal to one of the parties engaged in it, and is more than likely to cause the death of another, came off on board the steamer President, lying opposite to Bienville street, yesterday morning. We have taken some pains, to get at the facts of the case, which we believe to be these:

For some time past there has been a difficulty of a private nature existing between Cyprian C. Rhodes, pilot of the steamer President, and Warden P. Stephenson, pilot of the steamer Swan.—It is understood that a letter of a belligerent description passed between them early yesterday morning. Between the hours of nine and ten, Stephenson came

on board the President in company with a friend. After standing some minutes in the forward part of the cabin, Mr. Rhodes, with a cane in his hand, came from the other end of the cabin, and at sight of him, Stephenson drew a pistol, which Mr. Phillips, captain of the President, observing, he attempted to arrest the motion, whereupon Stephenson exclaimed, "stand back!" levelled his pistol at Rhodes and fired, the ball entering the left shoulder, passing between the first and second rib, and so into the lung. The parties then closed, Rhodes using a Bowie knife which he had with him, and Stephenson beating Rhodes about the head with the pistol. In this situation they fell, Rhodes being uppermost, and after a mortal struggle of a few moments duration, Rhodes exclaimed, "Part us, we are both dead men!"—They were then parted, and in a few minutes Rhodes died of his wounds.—Upon examination it was found that the bone of Stephenson's arm was shattered, that he had received a severe cut across the face, and was stabbed in the abdomen. He was conveyed to the Hospital.

The above facts, relative to this dreadful transaction, were compiled from several reliable sources, and may be depended on.

Since writing the above, we understand from the best medical authority, that unless inflammation ensues, Stephenson will recover. The whole affair will doubtless be made the subject of a legal investigation, which, for the honor of human nature, and the integrity of the community, we hope will be thorough and complete. The affair has created an intense excitement in the city, and there are a thousand rumors in circulation, relating both to the cause and the disastrous result, two of which cannot be found that resemble each other.

State Treasurer.

We would not willingly wrong any man, but placed as we are we must speak out, and in terms that cannot be misunderstood.

Auditor Matthews, who is as honest a man as ever breathed, has been, for the last ten days, engaged in the examination of Treasurer Graves' office, for the purpose of allaying public excitement. He has gone through all the books, vouchers and statements, and, on yesterday evening, desired to see if the money tallied with the accounts.

Treasurer Graves refused to let him see any of the funds, for fear, as he stated, he might compromise his dignity as an officer. His office has not been opened to-day. We have lingered around there for the purpose of doing Graves justice. We believe the people's money is not safe. \$141,447 27, we think from all the circumstances, will be lost to the State, unless something is done to secure it, and it may now be too late.

Jackson Southron.

Arrival of the Great Western.

By the arrival of the Great Western at New York on the 11th instant, we have seven days later intelligence from Europe.

The treaty of Washington, and the relations of Great Britain with this country, formed prominent topics in the discussions which had taken place in Parliament.

The news from China was of the most favorable character. A friendly feeling had succeeded the belligerent one, with which the English and Chinese regarded each other.

Before leaving Nankin, the Imperial Commissioners gave a grand entertainment to the officers of the Army and Navy, at which professions of amity were indulged in on both sides.

In France, the Guizot Ministry, though violently assailed, had sustained itself, and was considered safe for the present.

There was no particular change in the Cotton Market. Lower qualities have fallen off a little.—Mem. Enq.

The Phenomenon.

The Nashville papers contain several highly interesting communications from Prof. HAMILTON in regard to the Comet, or rather Comets, for it appears there are two now visible in our system—one with the naked eye, and the other with the aid of a telescope. We have not room to-day for these papers. The following extract will be interesting to all, & particularly so to the *scary*. Prof. H. says, in conclusion:—*Mem. Enq.*

"To relieve the minds of your readers, if any of them have fears on the subject, I assure them that both the comets now in our vicinity, are taking leave of us and travelling away with great speed.

Bigotry is often most loudly condemned by those who have the largest share of it.

From Texas.

The Congress recently broken up by Santa Anna, has re-assembled at Jalapa, and formed a new constitution, by which it is declared that neither Yucatan nor Texas shall be invaded. 2,000 soldiers & 14,000 citizens had assembled to protect this Congress from the central troops. The influence of Santa Anna is greatly impaired; Mexico in a disturbed state and another revolution headed by Gen. Arista has declared in favor of the Congress, and will be supported by a majority of the northern provinces.—ib.

Caught.

The clerk of Brander, Williams & Co., of New Orleans, who absconded some time since with \$7,600 of their funds, has been overtaken in Montgomery, Alabama, and compelled to shell out all, except \$50, which he had spent. The young gentleman no doubt intended to introduce an amendment to the appropriation law, and apply the funds of his employers to his own use.

Vicks. Whig.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot gives the following information respecting the state of affairs at Washington.

Mr. Spencer was confirmed by a majority of one. There appears to be an inconsistency in confirming him after rejecting Mr. Cushing. He was at first rejected also; but before the decision was communicated to the President, it was strongly urged that it might be the cause of leaving the Treasury without a Secretary. The nomination was then put to the vote again and consented to. It is believed that the President would not have sent in another name for this office, had Mr. Spencer been finally rejected.

The nomination of Mr. Everett, as Minister to China, was confirmed by a vote of 22 to 20. Those who opposed it had no objection to Mr. Everett.—Indeed several of them spoke of his qualifications in the highest terms; and would cheerfully have conferred any honor of the kind on this gentleman who is certainly a most valuable public servant. But they regarded his nomination, not as a new dignity, but as a recall: and further, they suspected that the design was to pave the way for sending Mr. Webster to England during the recess. To the appointment of the present Secretary to the Court of London, there is little doubt that the Senate would have refused their advice and consent; and they took occasion to mark their disapprobation of the suspected arrangement by voting against the recall of Mr. Everett.

It is believed, however, that the nomination of Mr. E. was made without much reference to the ulterior movements of Mr. Webster. The amendment requiring the officer to be submitted for the sanction of the Senate was not incorporated in the China Bill till late in the evening; and the President then had little time to select a nominee. Yet some body must have been nominated; and Mr. Everett's name was the best that could be chosen. No body could be sure however that he would accept the offer—and if he should not, the President may bestow the place on any one he chooses in the recess. Some of Mr. Everett's friends think he will not choose to exchange England for China; but he may yield to solicitations from this quarter.

Mr. Wise and Mr. Cushing will leave Washington on Tuesday—the former for Virginia, the latter for the North.—The reports that assign Mr. Wise to the War Department or a Foreign Mission, and Mr. Cushing to the Department of State, are incorrect. They both intend to return to their districts, and start for Congress immediately.—The elections come on in April:—so there is no time for them to lose.

Mr. Porter, of Pennsylvania, will be appointed Secretary of War immediately. Mr. Spencer will enter upon the discharge of his functions as Secretary of the Treasury, in the course of the week.

Escape of the Texian Prisoners!

The N. O. Bulletin of the 13th confirms the rumor, previously current, of the escape of the Texian prisoners captured at the battle of Mier. Mr. Thomas Nelson, one of the prisoners, had arrived in New Orleans, from whom this information was obtained. Their escape was effected at a small village about five days march from Matamoros, while the guards were participating in a jollification going on among the inhabitants. Mr. Nelson states that:—"A few of the prisoners having worked themselves loose, Col. Fisher was informed that they intended to make a break—and the matter being generally understood, those who were still tied were released, and the guard rushed upon, and after a short struggle over-

powered, and all the arms that could be found brought off. In this affair it was estimated the prisoners lost 14 of their number. The survivors then, in a body, made for the Rio Grande, by the lower route, (which being soft and marshy, is impassable for cavalry,) where they arrived in about 48 hours, traveling night and day, and crossed about 75 miles above Matamoros. During this march they had scarcely any thing to eat, and were nearly naked.—After crossing the river, our informant says, they divided into several small parties, and took different directions. Col. Fisher, with 15 to 20 companions, took the upper route for St. Antonio.—Mr. Nelson came by way of Gonzales and Washington, and thence via Nacogdoches to this city."

Memphis Enquirer.

The Great Earthquake in the West Indies.

A letter from St. Thomas, written on the 14th of February, and received here via Havana, by the steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle contains the following statement.

"At half past ten o'clock, on the 8th of February, we had a severe and lasting earthquake, (it is said to have lasted three minutes) but which caused little injury, only a few houses having been damaged. Antigua and Gaudaloupe have suffered more severely.—There is not a house left on Antigua, nor on that part of Gaudaloupe called Grandterre. The churches, fortifications, and even the very strongest built mills, have shared the same. The loss of lives in Antigua is only 3 or 10—but in the destruction of the city of Point Petre—it is believed that 3,000 persons perished.

Up to the time of the departure of the vessel that brought us this disastrous news, 4,000 bodies had already been dug out of the ruins and thrown into the sea. Immediately after the earthquake, a fire broke out, which lasted several days, and destroyed what had been left by the earthquake; and Point Petre, certainly the finest city in the West Indies, is nothing but a heap of ruins.

The city of Bassatun, in Gaudaloupe has suffered but little if any, as also the islands of St. Dominique and Martinique. In Nevis and St. Kitts, destruction has taken place.

From Montserrat no news has been received, but it is feared that a great many more melancholy disasters remain to be heard of."

N. O. Bulletin.

From the National Intelligencer. Zodiacal Light.

This interesting phenomenon in the heavens was noticed here on Monday night and also on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Zodiacal light appears in the morning before sunrise, and in the evening after twilight. It is a pyramid, with the sun for its basis. The sides are not straight, but curved, as those of a lens when viewed edgewise. It is generally seen about the period of the equinoxes, when there is the shortest twilight.—This light resembles the milky way, a faint twilight, or the tail of a comet.—The intensity of the light, its shape and tints, may be varied according to the condition of the atmosphere, which is now remarkable for its clearness.

The zodiacal light was first described about two centuries ago, and the various theories respecting it may be seen by referring to works on astronomy.

The subjoined description of this light, which we copy from the *Encyclopaedia Americana*, will, we dare say, be acceptable to our readers, and especially to those who have alarmed themselves with the apprehension that this atmospheric phenomenon was a COMET, such as—

terror sheds
On gazing nations, from his fiery train
Of length enormous.

"ZODIACAL LIGHT; a traingular beam of light rounded a little at the vertex, which is seen at certain seasons of the year, before the rising and after the setting of the sun. It resembles the faint light of the milky way, and has its base always turned towards the sun, and its axis inclined to the horizon.—The length of this pyramidal light, reckoning from the sun as its base, is sometimes 45° and at others 150°; and the vertical angle is sometimes 26° and sometimes 10°.—It is generally supposed to arise from an atmosphere surrounding the sun, and appears to have been first observed by Descartes and by Childrey in 1659, but it did not attract general attention till it was noticed by Dominique Cassini, (q. v.) who gave it its present name. If we suppose the sun to have an atmosphere, as there is every reason to believe from the luminous aurora which appears to surround his disc in total eclipses, it must be very much

thickened at its poles, and swelled out at the equator, by the centrifugal force of its equatorial parts. When the sun, then, is below the horizon, a portion of this luminous atmosphere will appear like a pyramid of light above the horizon.—The obliquity of the zodiacal light, will evidently vary with the obliquity of the sun's equator to the horizon; and in the months of February and March, about the time of the vernal equinox, it will form a very great angle with the horizon, and ought therefore, to be seen most distinctly at that season of the year. But when the sun is in the summer solstice, he is in the part of the ecliptic which is parallel to the equator, and, therefore, his equator, and consequently the zodiacal light, is more oblique to the horizon. Laplace, however, has made some objections to this theory in his *Mecanique Celeste*; and Regnier is of opinion that it is owing merely to the refraction of the solar light by the earth's atmosphere."

The Isle of Pines.

By the brig William, at Charleston, from Matanzas, we have received advice that the U. S. brig Boxer, Lieut. Com'g Bullus, arrived at Matanzas on the 20th ult., from a cruise near the Isle of Pines, having fallen in with and given chase to a topsail schooner whose movements and appearance excited suspicion, but which contrived to make her escape without being overhauled.

Communicated.

Astonishing!

Mr. Tyler:—Being recently from the neighborhood of Helena Ark., I will relate a circumstance which must interest your readers.

A few days previously, a man—a spirit—or, as it was called, "a false Christ" was seen by hundreds passing rapidly on foot through the woods, five hundred Jews following in his train! His hair streamed wild, and his raiment was sackcloth, worn after the fashion of the Jews. A riddle ball could not harm him, not one of numbers discharged having produced any impression!

Before his coming a great smoke had been discovered far in the east, and, after night fall the stars seemed to traverse the heavens in every direction, in the wildest confusion! The light of the sun was very much obscured during the day time, two moons were distinctly visible, and the fish in the bayous, ponds and eddies of small streams were dying by hundreds, the water being a.bove blood heat to the touch, while there was snow on the ground and the atmosphere was exceedingly cold!

Of course sir, it would be folly for me to attempt any explanation of these strange circumstances—I know not but what we may be informed by the "last trumpet!"

In haste
M———, Jr.

Don't believe a word of it.—Ed. Reg.

The Boston Post publishes the following translation of the Stabat Mater, which, it says, is almost literal.—Trop.

Stabat Mater.

Weeping stood the Mother,
Mourning at her loss,
While the blessed Saviour
Hung upon the cross.

Through the soul dejected
Of her only Son,
Pierced the sword that wounded
Him, the Holy One.
In what deep affliction,
Bending 'neath the rod,
Did that Mother languish,
While she saw the anguish
Of the Son of God.

Oh! what man had mourned not,
Had he then beheld
Christ's own Mother weeping,
By such grief compelled.

For the deep transgression
Of his people, she
Saw her Son subjected
To this agony.
By the scourge now smitten,
In the pangs of death,
Her dear Son beheld she
Yielding up his breath.

Thou of Love the Fountain,
Grant that I may feel
The deep power of sorrow,
At the cross may kneel;
May this heart grow warmer,
Kindling at his word,
And my love grow stronger,
Please the Christ—our Lord.

Grief of His, oh fix Thou
Deeply on my heart!
In his great affliction
May I bear a part;
Over Him, the Crucified,
May I weep with Thee

Who vouchsafed to suffer
And to die for me.

I would stand beside Thee,
Near the lowly cross,
Join thy lamentation,
Freely share thy loss;
Virgin of all virgins,
Turn not thou from me;
Let me feel thy sorrow,
Let me weep with thee.
Share of His passion,
By His cross inspired,
Of His suffering mindful,
Be my spirit fired.

Kindled thus in spirit,
Virgin! in the day
Of Judgment be thou with me,
My succor and my stay,
By His death redeemed,
His dear cross my guard,
May his grace and favor
Be my sweet reward.

When this form shall perish,
With its bond of clay,
May the joy of heaven
To my soul be given
Through eternal day.

There are few men who have not forgotten a great deal more than they know.

The great secret of success in all pursuits is *attention*.

When you don't know the road the best way is to follow your neighbors.

Sybilline Oracles.

Extracted from an old edition of Malin's prophecies, supposed to have been written about a thousand years ago, in printed at London, by John Hawkins in the year 1531. For an account of this extremely valuable and scarce book, see Swift's works, vol. 1, page 311, edition of 1776.

I

When the savage is meek and mild,
The frantic mother shall stab her [child].

II

When the cock shall woo the dove,
The mother the child shall cease to [love].

III

When men like moles, work under ground,
The lion, a virgin true shall wound.

IV

When the dove and cock the lion shall fight,
The lion shall crouch beneath their might.

V

When the cock shall guard the eagle's nest,
The stars shall rise all in the west.

VI

When ships above the clouds shall sail,
The lion's strength shall surely fail.

VII

When Neptune's back with stripes is red,
The sickly lion shall hide his head.

VIII

When seven and six shall make but one,
The lion's might shall be undone.

SOLUTION.

Verse 1st. The settlement of America by a civilized nation is very clearly alluded to in the first line. The frantic mother is Britain—America the child.

Verse 2d. The cock is France, the dove America—Columbia; their union is the epoch when America shall cease to love Britain; for so I understand the prophecy, in which is one of the most striking characteristics of the ancient oracles.

Verse 3rd. The siege of Yorktown, where approaches were carried on by working under the ground. We are told by Mr. Addison, in his Spectator, that a lion will not hurt a true maid—this at first seems contradicted by the prophecy; but it will be found, that at the epoch referred to the virgin, or Virginia, (as all North America was then called in Europe,) shall wound the lion, viz: Britain—which shows the precise time when the oracle should be accomplished.

Verse 4th. Alludes to the alliance between France and America, before whose might Great Britain crouched.

Verse 5th. This certainly refers to the period when France (the cock) guarded the home of Americans, (the eagle's nest) and assisted the States (the stars) to attain their independence; that is to rise in the Western Hemisphere.

Verse 6th. It is very remarkable that the properties of inflammable air by which balloons first traversed the upper regions, were then first discovered, and they are here evidently called ships.

Verse 7th. When America's navy